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COUNTRY AustriaREPORT NO. TOPIC General Military Information

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 

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DATE OF CONTENT 11 to 16 December 1953DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 19 January 1954REFERENCES 25X1CPAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 11 December 1953, two tank trucks and a pontoon carrier were parked in the barracks yard of the Eugen Kaserne in St. Poelten (O 49/W 38). Round timber was unloaded and piled by 14 soldiers with black-bordered black epaulets. A small group of soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets entered the installation. Vehicles parked in front of the garages at the Rainer Kaserne included 12 trucks, 3 van-like trucks, and 1 tank trailer. About 50 soldiers did fatigue duty in the barracks yard.  was standing in the barracks yard of the Franz Josef Kaserne which was guarded by a sentry with black-bordered black epaulets. The long-wire antennas were still there. The barrier at the installation was guarded by a sentry with red-bordered black epaulets.

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The sentry at the garage west of the former Kreisgericht wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. The radar installations on either side of the road to Witzendorf (O 49/W 38) were still there and guarded by a sentry with red-bordered black epaulets.  a soldier with red-bordered black epaulets left Viehofen Castle.

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2.
3. On 15 December, 37 trucks, 8 van-like trucks, and 4 jeeps were parked at the former Landesheilanstalt in Mauer Oehling (O 49/V 26). Two SU-76 were seen at the installation; and about 50 recruits without arms were drilled in the yard. At about noon, 2 majors and 48 M wearing black-bordered red epaulets, some with artillery insignia, entered the installation. The soldiers were equipped with carbines and gas masks. They were followed by truck  carrying soldiers

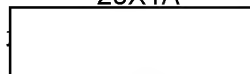
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- 2 -

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4. On 16 December, the Birago Kaserne in Melk (O 49/W 68) was apparently occupied to capacity. An observation post on the roof was unoccupied.

Two artillery pieces, probably 76-mm M 1942 field guns, were standing in a garage. Officers and EM wearing red-bordered black epaulets were seen at the installation. A group of 16 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets led by a senior lieutenant with black-bordered black epaulets left the Birago Kaserne and marched toward the Danube Meadows. The soldiers carried four tripods and four cases. A group of 36 soldiers led by a major wearing black-bordered red epaulets with artillery insignia marched toward the small woods south of the installation for training. The soldiers were equipped with carbines and gasmasks. Two telephone sections, including a leader, a soldier carrying reels, and two pole bearers each, marched toward the same direction. The soldiers wore red-bordered black epaulets.

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A few officers with red-bordered black or black-bordered black epaulets, but no EM, were observed in the town.<sup>2</sup>

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1. Comment. The observations from St. Poelten and Camp Spratzern do not furnish new information.

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2. Comment. Units stationed in Mauer Oehling include the 290th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt, and in Melk the 233rd Gds Gun Arty Regt of the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div.

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In mid-December 1953, training of recruits was intensive, and included basic training, firing practice with carbines, and special training, probably with aiming circles and telephone equipment.

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